

Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of representing type information for a typed intermediate language via objects of classes in a class hierarchy, wherein the class hierarchy comprises at least one class and a plurality of sub-classes for representing different type classifications, the method comprising:

instantiating one or more objects of one or more of the sub-classes of the hierarchy, wherein the one or more sub-classes represent classifications of types for the typed intermediate language; and storing information in the one or more objects;

wherein the typed intermediate language is capable of representing a plurality of different programming languages, and wherein the one or more objects represent type information for instructions in the typed intermediate language of a variable in software during compilation of the software.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the objects comprises information for a size of a type represented by the object.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes inherits from an abstract type that wraps an externally defined type, the abstract type providing a mapping from [|a|] the typed intermediate language to original source code.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents container types.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents pointer types.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents function types.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents unmanaged array types.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents class types.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents managed array types.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents struct types.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents interface types.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents enumerated types.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes represents primitive types.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein at least one of the sub-classes representing primitive types represents the following types: int, float, and void.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein at least one of the sub-classes representing primitive types can represent an unknown type.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein at least one of the sub-classes representing primitive types is extensible to represent one or more additional primitive types.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes is defined from the group consisting of: ‘ContainerType’, ‘PtrType’, ‘FuncType’, ‘ClassType’, ‘StructType’, ‘InterfaceType’, and ‘EnumType’.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more sub-classes is defined as ‘PrimType’.

20. (**Currently Amended**) A computer-readable medium having a software program thereon, the program comprising computer executable instructions for implementing a method for representing type information for a typed intermediate language using a class hierarchy for representing different type classifications, the method comprising:

defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as ‘PrimType’, wherein the programming class represents type information for the typed intermediate language;

associating a size with instances of the ‘PrimType’ class; and

associating a kind of type with instances of the ‘PrimType’ class.

21. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein the size represents a size of a machine representation of a value.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein associating a size with instances of the ‘PrimType’ class comprises defining the size as ‘BitSize’.

23. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein the kind of type represents a type classification.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein associating a kind of primitive type with instances of the ‘PrimType’ class comprises defining the kind of type as ‘PrimTypekind’.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein the method further comprises associating a type of size with instances of the ‘PrimType’ class.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein associating a type of size with instances of the ‘PrimType’ class comprises defining the type of size as ‘SizeKind’.

27. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the type of size can comprise actual, symbolic, or unknown types of size.

28. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein the class ‘PrimType’ represents a plurality of types, the plurality of types comprising int, float, unknown, void, condition code, and unsigned int types.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for implementing a method for representing type information for a typed intermediate language using a class hierarchy for representing different type classifications, the method comprising:

describing a type classification for representing container types for instructions in the typed intermediate language for [[of]] a plurality of programming languages, wherein the type classification is described as ‘ContainerType’, and wherein the type classification comprises defining a sub-class of the class hierarchy.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the method further comprises:

describing a type classification for representing pointer types for instructions in the typed intermediate language for [[of]] a plurality of programming languages, wherein the type classification is described as ‘PtrType’, and wherein the type classification comprises defining a sub-class of the class hierarchy.

31. (Currently Amended) A method for representing type information for a typed intermediate language using a class hierarchy by [[of]] programmatically defining a type representation, the method comprising:

defining a base class of the class hierarchy;

defining a plurality of classes hierarchically below the base class, wherein the plurality of classes represent type information for the typed intermediate language, and wherein the plurality of classes represent at least pointer types, container types and function types of a plurality of programming languages.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 further comprising defining a plurality of classes hierarchically below the class representing container types, wherein the plurality of classes represent type information for the typed intermediate language, and wherein the plurality of classes represent at least class types, struct types, interface types, and enumerated types of a plurality of programming languages.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32 further comprising defining a class hierarchically below the class representing class types, wherein the class represents type information for the typed intermediate language, and wherein the class represents unmanaged array types of a plurality of programming languages.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 further comprising defining a class hierarchically below one of the plurality of classes, wherein the class represents type information for the typed intermediate language, and wherein the class represents primitive types of a plurality of programming languages.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein the class further represents an unknown type.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a software program thereon, the program comprising computer executable instructions for implementing a method for representing type information for a typed intermediate language using a class hierarchy for representing different type classifications, the method comprising:

defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as 'ContainerType', wherein an object of class 'ContainerType' is a type representation in-an for the typed intermediate language for container types in a section of code written in one of a plurality of programming languages;

defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as 'PtrType', wherein an object of class 'PtrType' is a type representation in-an for the typed intermediate language for pointer types in a section of code written in one of a plurality of programming languages;

defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as 'FuncType', wherein an object of class 'FuncType' is a type representation in-an for the typed intermediate language for function types in a section of code written in one of a plurality of programming languages;

defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as 'ClassType', wherein an object of class 'ClassType' is a type representation in-an for the typed intermediate language for class types in a section of code written in one of a plurality of programming languages;

defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as 'StructType', wherein an object of class 'StructType' is a type representation in-an for the typed intermediate language for struct types in a section of code written in one of a plurality of programming languages;

defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as 'InterfaceType', wherein an object of class 'InterfaceType' is a type representation in-an for the typed intermediate language for interface types in a section of code written in one of a plurality of programming languages; and

defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as 'EnumType', wherein an object of class 'EnumType' is a type representation in-an for the typed intermediate language for enumerated types in a section of code written in one of a plurality of programming languages.

37. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 36 wherein the method further comprises program code for defining a programming class of the class hierarchy as 'PrimType', wherein an object of class 'PrimType' is a type representation in an for the typed intermediate language for primitive types in a section of code written in one of a plurality of programming languages.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 36 wherein the method further comprises program code for associating a size with an object of any class.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 36 wherein the method further comprises program code for associating a kind of type with an object of any class.